IN THE CLAIMS

Please add the following new claims.

17. (New) A computer readable medium configured to efficiently signal register usage in a computer program comprising a plurality of blocks of code, said computer readable medium comprising:

logic for determining which of the plurality of registers are live in one of the plurality of blocks of code in the computer program;

logic for finding at least one NOP instruction in said one of the plurality of blocks of code;

logic for creating a code usage register in said at least one NOP instruction in said one of the plurality of blocks of code; and

logic for setting one of a plurality of storage bits in said code usage register for each one of the plurality of registers live in said one of the plurality of blocks of code containing said NOP instruction.

18. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 17, further comprising:

logic for determining which of the plurality of registers are live in each one of the plurality of blocks of code in the computer program.

19. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 18, wherein said determining logic further comprises:

logic for inspecting the bits set in said code usage register to determine which of said registers are live in one of the plurality of blocks of code containing said NOP instruction.

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20.   (New) The computer readable medium of claim 19, further comprising:

logic for determining which of the plurality of registers are live in each one of the

plurality of blocks of code in the computer program.

21.   (New) The computer readable medium of claim 20, further comprising:

logic for setting each one of said plurality of storage bits in one of a plurality of storage

code usage registers for each register live in each one of the plurality of blocks of code in the

computer program.

22.   (New) The computer readable medium of claim 21, further comprising:

logic for determining which of said registers are not live in any of the plurality of blocks

of code in the computer program, by performing a logical OR of all of said plurality of storage

code usage registers.